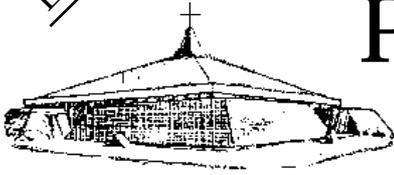


6 PAGE
EDITION

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



CHRIST OUR LIGHT
INNISHMORE



ST. MARY & ST. JOHN
STATION ROAD

SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2001
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Christians are required to answer hatred with goodness, curses with blessings and ill treatment with prayer. As descendants of Adam, this is difficult but through the power of Christ and his Holy Spirit, we can succeed.

I WONDER.....

Some time ago I did an article in the 'Parishioner' concerning the environment, and it brought some response and comment, hopefully it was to some effect. This week I'd like to raise awareness on the B.S.E. crisis that is hitting our beef industry at present. As I begin I wish to stress that the following is a personal opinion based on my reading of the current scene as I see it. Most of us are familiar with the unpleasant sight of the stumbling cow on our T.V. screens and so we are told this is what a Mad Cow looks like. Thankfully I have never come across a cow like this one in the dealings that I had with animals and I hope that I never will. As most of you know I grew up on a farm and so have a great love of animals, this being instilled into me since I was very small. There is, I feel another side to animals other than one of the stumbling cow. They are very noble, gentle and loveable creatures. The farming folk will agree that cows and cattle have some intelligence about them. They can sense fear, they feel pain, they know their masters and herd owners, they can pick out strangers, in the farmyard they instinctively know when things are not right and will react accordingly. They are good at causing trouble and are well able to get into mischief of all sorts when least expected, Murphy's Law! Therefore I find it disheartening to read in the papers and hear and see in the media reports of gross cruelty being caused to these animals. They are there for our benefit given to us by the good Lord. This should be borne in mind as this is a moral issue. These domesticated animals are food and to tamper with it is very serious. None of us can do without food. Back to B.S.E. Crises, I will agree that the Department of Agriculture and the food authorities must do all they can to protect our health. Care must be taken when treating it as an economic issue. In the 70's, 80's and 90's the farming community were urged to increase numbers and were given grants and supports to do so. With the B.S.E. crisis I'm getting undercurrents of economics. The smaller the National Herd the smaller the Budget, cheaper meat can be got elsewhere, just like jobs and labour. So far I have only heard silence from the animal welfare people. I wonder what is REALLY going on?

Fr. Pat O'Donovan C.C.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Love your enemies (Gospel)

When a quarrel has been going on for a while, both sides have genuine grievances: "He started it", "She made it worse". If everyone keeps demanding his or her rights, there will be no reconciliation. Jesus teaches a different standard. We are to ask God to forgive us as we forgive others, to treat others, even enemies, as we would like them to treat us.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

PRIEST

My brothers and sisters,
the Lord is compassion and love,
so we bring our prayers to God.

READER

For religious leaders and all who
preach God's forgiveness, that they
may receive the grace to practise it.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

For an end to war and civil strife -
that enemies may be reconciled.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

For families where there are
difficulties, and tension,
that those at odds with each other
may learn to get along.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

For relationships strained because
of past mistakes, that bitterness
may give way to forgiveness
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who suffer, particularly
those in anguish of mind or spirit,
that God's healing power may
make them well again.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

The Lord is compassion and love

BAPTISMS

WE WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY ALL THOSE WHO WERE BAPTISED RECENTLY :



Christopher Michael Burrows,
86, Willowfield, Leesdale
Myley Jade O'Connell-Vaughan, 52, Castle Ave.
Ciara Ann O'Leary, 46, Aylsbury
Etienne Lavrent Gracia, Clash Road
Eoghan David Murphy, 9 The Paddocks



IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Nora Hegarty, Skibbereen
Michael Gilleran, Rosewood
Denis McCarthy, McCurtains Villas
Pat Barry, Fermoy & Glanmire
Denis Barry, Glanmire
Finbar McSweeney, The Lough
Christine Buckley-O'Reilly, Canada
Nina Walsh-Kelly, Douglas

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

Jerry Desmond, Ovens Bridge
Patrick Crowley, Manor Hill
Elizabeth Murphy, Carriganarra
Tom & Kathleen Holmes, Leo Murphy Terrace
Michael McNulty, Fr. Sexton Park
The McCarthy Family, Ballymacoda
Daniel O'Sullivan, Inniscarra
Johanna Towney, Coolea
Dave Kane
Molly Murray, Quaker Road
Mary Knight, Willow Drive, Muskerry Estate
Thomas Reid, Curraheen
Brendan Longwood, Bishopstown
Morgan O'Callaghan, late of Kanturk
Teresa Strachan, Dublin
Eileen O'Grady, The Crescent
Jeremiah & Margaret Carroll, Macroom
James O'Connell, Kinsale Road
Liam(Billy) Carroll, Inniscarra View
Joey O'Driscoll, Rosewood
Keith Lynch, Cobh
Betty O'Brien, Bandon
William Burke, Vicarstown
Sean O'Riordan-Love, Beech Road
Donal Harrington, Castletownbere
Mary Callaghan, Galway
William & Sheila Murphy, Model Farm Road
Patrick Cronin, Skibbereen
Nora Barrett, Coolroe

READINGS FOR THE WEEK Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

18 Sunday 1 Sam. 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23. Ps. 102. 1 Cor. 15:45-49.
Lk. 6:27-38. *Lect I: 856*

Abishai reflects our human way of thinking about justice and mercy. But David, in refusing to take advantage of Saul's helplessness, gives an idea of God's boundless compassion and love

19 Monday Sir. 1:1-10. Ps. 92. Mk. 9:14-29. *Lect II:81*

The wisdom which Ben Sira commends comes from God. It is the source of happiness and the young should form their character from it. This Wisdom is closely associated with the Law of Moses, especially in carrying out religious duties, notably the liturgy.

20 Tuesday Sir. 2:1-11. Ps. 36. Mk. 9:30-37. *Lect II:83*

Behaviour in the time of ordeal. Fear of the Lord is the key to endurance. In time of trial we must stand firm, there must be no giving way to apostasy. Jesus himself is our example being delivered into the hands of men who put him to death.

21 Wednesday Sir. 4:11-19. Ps. 118. Vv. 165-175. Mk. 9:38-40. *Lect II:85*

The way of wisdom is the way of God's law which brings peace. Jesus tells us to look for the good being done and not to be jealous of another's good work.

22 Thursday 1 Pet. 5:1-4. Ps. 22. Mt. 16:13-19. *Lect II:540*

23 Friday Sir. 6:5-17. Ps. 118. Mk. 10:1-12. *Lect II:89*

Good human relationships result from making sound judgments and in persevering effort. To find a loyal friend is to find a treasure. And to be united in marriage is to become one body.

24 Saturday Sir. 17:1-5. Ps. 102. Mk. 10:13-16. *Lect II:91*

Jesus calls the little children to him. This incident was later recalled when the practice of infant baptism was questioned.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Wednesday 21st - St. Peter Damian, stands out in Church history as a strong figure, one of the greatest reformers of the Middle Ages, who preached penance and love, not only by words, but by the example of his life. He died 22 February 1072.

Thursday 22nd - The Chair of St. Peter, This ancient feast relates to early Roman custom at this time of year of remembering the ancestors of the family, those who presided over the family fortunes. The texts today celebrate Peter as Bishop of Rome. We recall Christ's choice of Peter for service to the whole Church.

Friday 23rd - Polycarp, was born between the years 70 and 80. As a young man he became a disciple of Saint John the Evangelist. Later, John consecrated him bishop of Smyrna, a city now in modern Turkey. Eventually Polycarp was arrested and brought before the pagan authorities and when they demanded that Polycarp deny Christ, the bishop quietly answered: "I have been serving Him eighty-six years and He has never harmed me. How then dare I blaspheme my King who has saved me?" This simple declaration of faith caused his death.

ANNOUNCEMENT

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

WEEK OF DIRECTED PRAYER

25TH TO 31ST MARCH

MORE NEWS NEXT WEEK

A Message from the Peace Movement

P.E.A.C.E. will be celebrating this March the Silver Jubilee of Cork Peace Week. Please join in the celebration.

1. Concelebrated Peace Mass - Sunday 4th March at St. Augustine's Church, Cork at 3.30pm. Bishop John McAreavey, Northern Ireland will preach.
2. Hear Fr. Neal Carlin (Derry & Donegal) speak at the Charismatic Prayer meeting for Peace at the Nano Nagle Hall, Evergreen St. on Wednesday 7th March at 8pm.
3. Holy Hour and Mass for Peace conducted/celebrated by Fr. Jerry Hickey, O.S.A. on Friday 9th March beginning at 7.30p.m. at the Convent Chapel, St. Marie's of the Isle, Sharman Crawford St.
4. 25th Ecumenical Service for Peace and Reconciliation in Ireland at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Cork. The Preacher will be Rev. Dr. Jim Williamson, Belfast.
5. A special evening of Sacred song music and liturgical dance and the performance of an opera, Judith (Old Testament Heroine) composed by John Gibson at the North Cathedral, Cork on Sunday 29th April at 8pm.
6. Come to the Everyman Palace, Sunday 4th March at 8pm for the Sixth National Song Contest for Peace. Book now at the Everyman.

MY LIFE IS IN YOUR HANDS

Lord, I have passed through tough times.
The props that I thought would sustain me,
have been knocked from beneath me:
I have collapsed like a tent unpegged.

Now my health is broken from sorrow. I have become weak from grief,
My years drained away in sadness. I feel like a broken crock.

Now there is nowhere else to go, Nothing to cling to,
No foothold to balance, My faltering steps.

I recall that in past times, you took pity on my weakness.
You took note of my affliction, heeded my soul's distress.

Be now a cave of refuge for me, a mighty stronghold to save me.
For your name's sake, I will rejoice and be glad of your kindness.

I look only for your guidance, my fate is in your hand.

'Cheer up! Be brave! Take courage if you trust in the Lord.'

Psalm 31:24

Reflection from Psalm No. 31

Need and Greed

In this age of materialism and increasing interest in economic success, it may seem quite natural for one to accumulate as many unnecessary items as possible, to own many modern and hi-tech innovations such as mobile phones, electronic beepers, personal computers, video games, etc... We strive to achieve the highest status in our society, to gain the most financial profit, to own the finest home. We wish for the admiration and envy of our fellow man. It is expected that students will obtain the highest grades and employees will obtain the highest promotion. Indeed, the wealthiest among us seem to attract the greatest praise and honour. The ownership of property and the largest amount of land is reckoned to reflect how great or eminent a person may be amongst his peers. Riches are the criteria by which one is judged by his contemporaries. All classes in society appear to esteem those who possess the most, by whatever means. But do we ever stop to consider: Are our wants different to our needs? Why do we want so many things that we do not need? Is it a primitive instinct in man to collect material things although they may be unnecessary and surplus to his requirements? Or is it simply greed and avarice, a selfish desire to possess as much wealth and material goods as is possible in this life? If so, it would almost certainly be profitable for our peace of mind and spiritual happiness to make a distinction between our real needs and our wants. We should note the words of Jesus when he advised 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Luke 12:13-21

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 24TH/25TH FEB

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN

CHRIST OUR LIGHT

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 6.00p.m. (Vigil) - Laura Moloney | 8.00p.m. (Vigil) - Michael Greene |
| 8.30a.m. - Marian Daly | 11.00a.m. - Fiona O'Connor |
| 10.00a.m. - Laura Linehan | 12.30p.m. - Liam Hayes |
| 12 Noon - Brendan Daly | 5.30p.m. - Eileen Nolan |

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST 24th/25th February 2001

ST. MARY'S & ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SATURDAY 24TH

6p.m.
Helen Kelly
April Ryan
Eileen Murphy
Ted Nelligan
Angela Murphy
Ann O'Connell

SUNDAY 25TH

8.30a.m.
Mary Buckley
Josie Halligan

10a.m.
Miriam Maunsell
Mary McLean
Breda Ring
Jerry O'Connor

12.00 Noon
Louie O'Leary
Mary Buckley
Will Casey
Rose Doyle
Anne O'Sullivan
Ellen O'Sullivan



CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH

SATURDAY 24TH

8p.m.
Charlie Vaughan
Joan Stephenson
Maura O'Driscoll

SUNDAY 25TH

11a.m.
Ann O'Regan
Neil Jeffries
Eileen Byrne
Mary Coleman
Dan Coleman

12.30p.m.
Con O'Connell
Rose Cotter
Denis O'Mahony
Christine O'Mahony
Tom Murray

5.30p.m.
Marie O'Brien
Patsy Galvin
Bridie O'Donnell

| ST. MARY & ST. JOHN | EACH SUNDAY | CHRIST OUR LIGHT |
|---|--|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Masses</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY RECITED AT BOTH CHURCHES EACH SUNDAY 3.00P.M. <i>Everyone most welcome</i></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Masses</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Confessions</p> <p>Saturday: after 10am Mass before 6pm Mass</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">SACRISTY SERVICES <i>Before and after all Masses Sundays & Weekdays</i> CHURCH OF ST. MARY & ST. JOHN - Mass Card Signing - Requests for Baptism/Marriage Certs etc.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Confessions</p> <p>Saturday: after 10am Mass</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Baptisms</p> <p>Saturday: 5.00pm Sunday: 12.45pm</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">CHRIST OUR LIGHT - Mass Card Signing -</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Baptisms</p> <p>Saturday: 7.15pm</p> |

PARISH CLERGY

CHURCH NO.  087-2479140

Fr. L.O'Brien P.P.  021-4871206

Fr. E. Crowley C.C.  021-4870434

Fr. P. O'Donovan C.C.  021-4872808 Fax: 021-4872808 Fr. Paul O'Donoghue  021-4876055

***BALLINCOLLIG
COMMUNITY GAMES***

The Community games are about to start another year, with the hope of following the marvellous achievements of the young sports stars of Ballincollig in 2000. It is hoped once again to enter individuals and teams in the following events: Athletics, Gymnastics, Swimming, Table Tennis, Hardcourt Tennis, Boys and Girls Soccer, Indoor Soccer, Boys and Girls Pitch & Putt, Boys and Girls Basketball, Girls Hockey and Camogie. There are also a number of other events and activities in the Community Games calendar and the Committee would be delighted to hear from any individual, or group, who would be willing to help with the organisation of individuals or teams to participate in the following events: Art, Clay Modelling, Rounders, Chess, Drawing, Table Quiz, Girls Gaelic Football, Grand Prix Cycling, Rugby, Handball, Olympic Handball, Choir and Variety.

*Any interested adults should contact
Rick O'Mahony at 4872629 or 087-2358347*

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD
St. Mary's & St. John's
MEETING
on Thursday next
22nd February
at 8p.m. in the Church**



SUTTONS OIL

HOME HEATING OIL

Commercial · Agricultural
Centre Park Road, Cork

Tel: 021-4911700

Fax: 021-4911701



Home Heating Budget Payment Plan

S o l d i e r s

The Pope's intention for February is - 'that children will never again be forced to participate in any war, but may be freed from hatred and violence, so that they can enjoy, as children should, friendship in their family, school and society'. He asks this because 300,000 children are currently fighting in conflicts around the world.

Child soldiers are "more obedient, do not question orders and are easier to manipulate than adult soldiers."

The exploitation of children in the ranks of the world's armies must end, says a new United Nations report. "One of the most alarming trends in armed conflict is the participation of children as soldiers," declares the report, by Graça Machel, the Secretary-General's Expert on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children. The report says the use of child soldiers is a problem created by adults, to be eradicated by adults. It calls for a global campaign to demobilise all child soldiers and to "eradicate the use of children under the age of 18 years in the armed forces." The report further calls upon governments to renounce the practice of forced recruitment, which has put increasing numbers of children under arms against their will. "Children are dropping out of childhood," comments Devaki Jain of India, one of Ms. Machel's Eminent Persons' Group of Advisers. "We must envision a society free of conflict where children can grow up as children, not weapons of war."

The use of child soldiers is hardly new. "Children serve armies in supporting roles as cooks, porters, messengers and spies," the report notes. "Increasingly, however, adults are conscripting children as soldiers deliberately." Children under 15 years of age are known to be serving in government or opposition forces in at least 25 conflict zones and it is estimated that some 200,000 child soldiers under 16 years of age saw armed combat in 1988. Generally, however, child soldiers are statistically invisible as governments and armed opposition groups deny or downplay their role.

The 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child defines childhood as below the age of 18 years, although it currently recognises 15 as the minimum age for voluntary or compulsory recruitment into the armed forces. However, momentum is building for an Optional Protocol to the Convention that would raise the minimum age to 18.

With new weapons that are lightweight and easy to fire, children are more easily armed, with less training than ever before. Moreover, as was stated in one background paper prepared for the Machel report, child soldiers are "more obedient, do not question orders and are easier to manipulate than adult soldiers." And they usually don't demand pay.

A series of 24 case-studies on child soldiers, covering conflicts over the past 30 years, makes it clear that tens of thousands of children - many under the age of 10 - have been recruited into armies around the world. In Liberia, children as young as seven have been found in combat, while in Cambodia, a survey of wounded soldiers found that 20 percent of them were between the ages of 10 and 14 when recruited. In Sri Lanka, of 180 Tamil Tiger guerrillas killed in one government attack, more than half were still in their teens, and 128 were girls. Solid statistics are hard to come by, however, as most armies and militia do not want to admit to their use of child soldiers.

According to the report, children are often press-ganged from their own neighbourhoods where local militia or village leaders may be obliged to meet recruitment quotas. In the Sudan, children as young as 12 have been rounded up from buses and cars. In Guatemala, youngsters have been grabbed from streets, homes, parties and even violently removed from churches. In the 1980's, the Ethiopian military practiced a 'vacuum cleaner' approach, recruiting boys, sometimes at gunpoint, from football fields, markets, religious festivals or on the way to school.

The report deplores the fact that children are often deliberately brutalised in order to harden them into more ruthless soldiers. In some conflicts, children have been forced to commit atrocities against their own families. In Sierra Leone, for example, the Revolutionary United Front forced captured children to take part in the torture and execution of their own relatives, after which they were led to neighbouring villages to repeat the slaughter. Elsewhere, before battle young soldiers have been given amphetamines, tranquillisers and other drugs to "increase their courage" and to dull their sensitivity to pain.

Some children become soldiers simply to survive. In war-ravaged lands where schools have been closed, fields destroyed and relatives arrested or killed, a gun is a meal ticket and a more attractive alternative to sitting home alone and afraid. Sometimes a minor soldier's pay is given directly to the

**BALLINCOLLIG BASKETBALL CLUB
NOTES AND FIXTURES**

RESULTS:

It was a quiet week for the club with only three games to report on. The first was the Boys Un-13 team who played Bantry here in B.C.S. in Ballincollig. It was a much better performance by our lads than when they last met this team. The first half was dominated by Bantry, but the Ballincollig lads persevered and in the second half began to put in some very good baskets and pull back their opponents lead. Unfortunately, Bantry, who had an older and more experienced side proved just too tough for our lads and the victory went to Bantry. The Un-17 Men played Glanmire in their match on Tuesday last. It was a good match for the Ballincollig lads who showed their strength from the start, leaving Glanmire with few opportunities and Ballincollig with a well deserved win. The Un-19 Men's team had a walkover from Blue Demons on the same night. Apologies to the Junior 1 Ladies for failing last week to report on their very comfortable win over C.S.O. on Thursday 1st February in the Parochial Hall. Well Done, Ladies. Please note that there will not be any training on Friday 16th, Saturday 17th or Sunday 18th due to the Gym not being available.

UPCOMING FIXTURES - MEN

Friday 16th February - Parochial Hall
6.30pm Iona v Ballincollig Un-13
Saturday 17th February - Middleton Comm. Centre
8.30pm East Cork Glenmary v Ballincollig Div. 2
Tuesday 20th February - Parochial Hall
6.30pm Neptune v Ballincollig Un-19
8.00pm East Cork Glenmary v Ballincollig Div. 2
Friday 23rd February - Parochial Hall
6.30pm Ballincollig v Marathon Limerick Un-17
Friday 23rd February - Carrigaline Comm. School
6.30pm Carrigaline A v Ballincollig Un-13
Friday 23rd February - Ballincollig Comm. School
8.15pm Ballincollig v Middleton Coasters Un-17

UPCOMING FIXTURES - LADIES

Thursday 15th February - Parochial Hall
6.00pm Ballincollig v Skibbereen Un-12
Saturday 17th February - Carrigaline
3.15pm Ballincollig v Carrigaline Un-16
Saturday 24th February - B.C.S. Ballincollig
4.00pm Ballincollig v Brunell Un-12
5.00pm Ballincollig v Bantry Un-14
6.00pm Ballincollig v Cobh Un-15
7.00pm Ballincollig v Mallow Un-16
8.00pm Ballincollig v Kelts Jun 1
Sunday 25th February - B.C.S. Ballincollig
11.00am Ballincollig v Skibbereen Un-14
12.00pm Ballincollig v Skibbereen Inter
1.00pm Ballincollig v Glanmire 2 Junior
2.00pm Ballincollig v Cobh Un-16

ST. JOSEPHS YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

Monthly meeting will be held
in the Community Hall on
Monday 19th February 2001 at 8p.m.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Friday 2nd March, the
Women's World Day of Prayer Service for
the Ballincollig/Carrigrohane/Blarney Area
will be held at 8.30p.m.
in St. Peter's Church, Carrigrohane.
All (Women and Men) are welcome
to attend this international and
interdenominational prayer service,
prepared this year by the women of Samoa.

Why not take on a challenge for 2001?

You are invited to a study day on
THE SACRAMENTS
St. Finbarr's College,
Farranferris, Cork
This Sunday, February 18th, 2001
10a.m. - 5p.m. (Mass at 4p.m.)

PRESENTER: Fr. Paul Watson,
Maryvale Institute, Birmingham

*This day is part of a course of distance
study in the Catholic Catechism offered by
the Maryvale Institute in Birmingham
in conjunction with the
Adult Religious Education Office
of the Diocese of Cork and Ross.*

NEW PARTICIPANTS INTERESTED IN STARTING
THE COURSE ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

***Please bring a packed lunch and a copy of
the New Catechism of the Catholic Church.***

Cost of Study Day £5

***Further information available from
Cork and Ross Education Office
through Fr. Declan Mansfield.***

T e l: 0 2 1 - 4 3 0 1 7 1 7